(c) and (d) There is no proposal for the Central Government to set up any new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and the policy of the Government is to encourage and facilitate establishment of SEZs in the private sector or joint sector in association with the State Governments or by the State Governments themselves. Hence it is not possible to indicate the number of SEZs which are likely to be opened in 2005-06 and 2006-07 or targeted exports from these zones.

Discussions with farmers organizations on farm policies at WTO

1529. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has held discussion with various farmers organizations as preparation for forthcoming talks on WTO matters related to farm policies;

(b) if so, the details of farmers organizations with which discussions were held;

(c) when were these discussions held by Government; and

(d) the details thereof, giving names and dates and topic of discussions on matters related to WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN):(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Towards evolving India's negotiating strategies and position in the negotiations launched at Doha in 2001, the Government has been holding consultations with stakeholders from time to time, including two consultation workshops organized jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on 19-20 July 2005 and on 28-29 November 2005 at New Delhi as a part of Government's preparations for the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization at Hong Kong, China, on 13-18 December 2005. Open notices were issued to invite information and participation from agri-economists, farmers' associations, research institutions, consumer organisations, and any other interested party. A Statement listing the farmers' organizations which attended these consultation workshops is attached. (See Below)

Under the broad project theme of "Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalisation in India", the July 2005 consultation workshop

focused on Key trade and trade policy issues affecting India, in particular, food and rural livelihoods, and perspectives on market access, domestic support and export competition. The November 2005 consultation workshop's theme was identifying India's core concerns pre-Hong Kong Ministerial Meeting. Issues discussed were the draft Hong Kong Ministerial text, elimination of export subsidies, substantial reduction of trade distorting domestic support, market access, protecting Indian farmers through Special Products and Special Safeguard Mechanism, non-tariff barriers facing Indian agricultural exports, current status of Indian agriculture etc.

Statement

List of Farmers'organisation which attended consultation workshops on Farms Products at WTO

19-20 July 2005		
1.	Or. M. C. George	Indian Fanners' Movement, Kerala
2.	Dr. Sunilam	Multaie Kisan Sangharsh Samiti, Multaie, District Baitul, Madhya Pradesh
3.	Shri K. Loganathan	Director, ISED and State President of Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers' Movement, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
4.	Shri Krishan Bir Chaudhary	Executive Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi
5.	Shri Sarampalli Malla Reddy	State Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Rytu Sangham, Hyderabad
6.	Shri Sharad Joshi, Member of Parliament	Shetkari Sanghatana, Angarmala
7.	Shri Suneet Chopra	Joint Secretary, All India Agricultural Workers Union, New Delhi
8.	Shri Vijay Nandkishore Jawandhia	President Maharashtra State Cotton Grower's Association, Ramnagar, Wardha
9.	Shri Yudhvir Singh	Bhartiya Kisan Union, President Delhi State, Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers' Movement-National Coordination and Member Secretary, Mehipalpur Extension, New Delhi

28-29-November 2005

1.		Coimbatore District Grape Growers' Association
2.	Shri A. Petchimuthu Shri A. K. Ruppusamy	Farmers' Party, Oddancdatram, Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu
3.	Shri B. Tulasidas	Andhra Pradesh Rytu Sangham, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
4.	Shri Dharmendra Malik Shri Rakesh	Bhartiya Kisan Union, District Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh
5.	Shri Dinesh Kulkarni	All India Organizing Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh, Pune, Maharashtra
6.	Smt. Gayathri Gireesh	Karnataka Rajya Ritha Sangha, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore
7.	Shri K. Sellamuthu	President, Farmers and Workers Party of Tamil Nadu, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
8.	Shri Keshav Bhai Thakkar	Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, New Delhi
9.	Shri Krishan Bir Chaudhary	Executive Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi
10.	Shri M.C. George	National Trustee and Convenor, Legal Cell, Indian Farmers' Movement, Muvattupuzha
11.	Shri Mahesh Kumar Jhakhar	State Minister, Rajasthan Kisan Union, Sikar, Rajasthan
12.	Shri Mukhram Choudhary.	President, Rajasthan Kisan Union, Jaipur, Rajasthan
13.	Shri N.K. Shukla	Joint Secretary, All India Kisan Sabha, New Delhi
14.	Shri Ram Kishan Chaudhary	Rural Peoples Movement, Cecoedecon, Jaipur
15.	Shri Yudhvir Singh	President Delhi State Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers' Movement-National Coordination and Member Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Union
16.	Shri John George	Executive director, Team for Human Resource Education and Action for Development
17.	Shri K.C.M. Balasubramanian	Advisor and Spokesperson, Tamilaga Vevasaigal Sangam (Tamil Nadu Farmers' Association)